

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the last paragraph on page 2, lines 16-18 as follows:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [[\_\_\_\_\_]] 10/715,382, filed on [[\_\_\_\_\_]]  
November 19, 2003, entitled “Method and System for Synchronous and Asynchronous Note  
Timing in a System for Enhancing Collaboration Using Computers and Networking.

Please amend the first and second paragraphs on page 3, lines 1-5 as follows:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [[\_\_\_\_\_]] 10/715,381, filed on [[\_\_\_\_\_]]  
November 19, 2003, entitled “Method and System for Enhancing Collaboration Using  
Computers and Networking.”

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [[\_\_\_\_\_]] 10/715,375, filed on [[\_\_\_\_\_]]  
November 2003, entitled “Method and System for Sending Questions, Answers and File  
Synchronously and Asynchronously in a System for Enhancing Collaboration Using Computers  
and Networking. [[.]]”

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 9, lines 1-11 as follows:

The replicated hierarchical data store ("RHDS") has many potential applications in the general field of mobile computing. The RHDS may be used in conjunction with a synchronous Serial No. [[\_\_\_\_]] 10/715,381 entitled "Method and System for Enhancing Collaboration Using Computers and Networking," which was previously incorporated herein. In that application, the RHDS may be used to allow students and instructors with mobile computers (e.g., laptops) to interact with each other in a variety of ways. For example, the RHDS may be used to support the automatic determination of which users are present in an online activity. The software may achieve this by creating particular nodes within the RHDS when a participant joins or leaves an activity. In one implementation, the replication of these nodes to all other connected computers allows each computer to independently verify whether a given participant is online or not.

Please amend the first full paragraph beginning on page 12, line 6, through page 13, lines 1-4 as follows:

Although aspects of methods and systems consistent with the present invention are described as being stored in memory 110, one having skill in the art will appreciate that all or part of methods and systems consistent with the present invention may be stored on or read from

other computer-readable media, such as secondary storage, like hard disks, floppy disks, and CD-ROM; a carrier wave received from a network such as the Internet; or other forms of ROM or RAM either currently known or later developed. Further, although specific components of the data processing system are described, one skilled in the art will appreciate that a data processing system suitable for use with methods, systems, and articles of manufacture consistent with the present invention may contain additional or different components. The computer 102 may include a human user or may include a user agent. The term "user" may refer to a human user, software, hardware or any other entity using the system. A user of a computer may include a student or an instructor in a class. The mechanism via which users access and modify information is a set of application programming interfaces ("API") that provide programmatic access to the replicated hierarchical data store 124 in accordance with the description discussed below. As shown, the memory 110 in the computer 102 may include a data synchronization system [[128]] 126, a service core 130 and applications 132 which are discussed further below. Although only one application 132 is shown, any number of applications may be used. Additionally, although shown on the computer 102 in the memory 110, these components may reside elsewhere, such as in the secondary storage 112, or on another computer, such as another computer 102. Furthermore, these components may be hardware or software whereas embodiments in accordance with the present invention are not limited to any specific combination of hardware and/or software. As discussed below, the secondary storage 112 may include a replicated hierarchical data store 124.

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 13, lines 6-17, as follows:

FIG. 1 also depicts a computer 104 that includes a CPU 106, an I/O unit 108, a memory 110, and a secondary storage computer 112 having a replicated hierarchical data store 124 that communicate with each other via a bus 114. The memory 110 may store a data synchronization system 126 which manages the data synchronization functions of the computer 104 and interacts with the data store 124 as discussed below. The secondary storage 112 may store directory information, recorded data, data to be shared, information pertaining to statistics, user data, multi media files, etc. The data store 124 may also reside elsewhere, such as in memory 110. The computer 104 may also have many of the components mentioned in conjunction with the computer 102. There may be many computers 104 working in conjunction with one another. The data synchronization system 126 may be implemented in any way, in software or hardware or a combination thereof, and may be distributed among many computers. It may also be represented by any number of components, processes, threads, etc.

Please amend the third full paragraph on page 20, lines 14-20, as follows:

Child references 604 is a set of references to children of this node. Value 605 is the value of the node, which can be changed over the lifetime of the node through programmatic API's. Persistent flag [[607]] 606 is a flag indicating whether the node is persistent or transient. This flag 606 is set when the node is created and, in one implementation, cannot be modified by the

user subsequently. Local flag 607 is a flag indicating whether the node is local or global. This flag is set when the node is created and, in one implementation, cannot be modified by the user subsequently.

Please amend the second full paragraph on page 22, line 12 as follows:

~~T=<ns, id, s, d, l, g, t, r, hm, he, e>~~ T=<ns, nm, s, d, l, g, t, r, h<sub>m</sub>, h<sub>c</sub>, c>